

Application Serial No. 10/657,310
Amendment After Final Action dated January 11, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action dated November 30, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compressor assembly comprising:

a housing;

a compressor mechanism disposed within said housing;

a bearing support mounted within said housing, said bearing support including a recess;

a shaft rotatable about a shaft axis, said shaft axis being disposed substantially horizontally during operation of said compressor assembly, said shaft having first and second opposed ends, said first end operably coupled to said compressor mechanism;

a bearing mounted on said bearing support and rotatably supporting said shaft proximate said second end of said shaft;

a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft and disposed proximate said second end of said shaft;

said housing defining an interior plenum wherein lubricating oil is pooled in a bottom portion of said interior plenum; said bearing support, said bearing, said counterweight and said shaft all being disposed within said interior plenum; and

an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support proximate said bearing, said flexible members engaged with said bearing support recess, said oil shield having a substantially cylindrical portion extending outwardly from said bearing support, said counterweight being at least partially disposed within said substantially cylindrical portion of said oil shield.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A compressor assembly comprising:

a housing;

a compressor mechanism disposed within said housing;

a bearing support mounted within said housing;

a shaft rotatable about a shaft axis, said shaft axis being disposed substantially horizontally during operation of said compressor assembly, said shaft having first and second opposed ends, said first end operably coupled to said compressor mechanism;

a bearing mounted on said bearing support and rotatably supporting said shaft proximate said second end of said shaft;

a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft and disposed proximate said second end of said shaft;

said housing defining an interior plenum wherein lubricating oil is pooled in a bottom portion of said interior plenum; said bearing support, said bearing, said counterweight and said shaft all being disposed within said interior plenum; and

an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support proximate said bearing, said oil shield having a substantially cylindrical portion extending outwardly from said bearing support, said counterweight being at least partially disposed within said substantially cylindrical portion of said oil shield,

wherein each of said plurality of flexible members has a distal end with a radially inwardly projecting portion, and said bearing support defines a groove proximate said bearing, said inwardly projecting portions being engageable with said groove.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A compressor assembly comprising:

a housing;

a compressor mechanism disposed within said housing;

a bearing support mounted within said housing;

a shaft rotatable about a shaft axis, said shaft axis being disposed substantially horizontally during operation of said compressor assembly, said shaft having first and second opposed ends, said first end operably coupled to said compressor mechanism;

a bearing mounted on said bearing support and rotatably supporting said shaft proximate said second end of said shaft;

a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft and disposed proximate said second end of said shaft;

said housing defining an interior plenum wherein lubricating oil is pooled in a bottom portion of said interior plenum; said bearing support, said bearing, said counterweight and said shaft all being disposed within said interior plenum; and

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an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support proximate said bearing, said oil shield having a substantially cylindrical portion extending outwardly from said bearing support, said counterweight being at least partially disposed within said substantially cylindrical portion of said oil shield,

wherein said bearing support includes a substantially cylindrical central portion, said bearing being mounted within said central portion, said oil shield fixedly engaging an outer surface of said central portion.

Claim 4 (original): The compressor assembly of claim 3 wherein said each of said flexible members has a distal end with a radially inwardly projecting portion, and said bearing support defines a groove on said outer surface of said central portion, said inwardly projecting portions being engageable with said groove.

Claim 5 (original): The compressor assembly of claim 1 wherein said motor includes a rotor rotationally coupled to said shaft and said counterweight is disposed on said rotor.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A compressor assembly comprising:

a housing;

a stationary scroll member fixed within said housing;

an orbiting scroll member disposed within said housing and engaged with said stationary scroll member;

a motor;

a crankcase disposed between said motor and said orbiting scroll;

a bearing support member fixed within said housing and having a bearing mounted thereto, said bearing support including a recess;

an elongate shaft rotatable about a shaft axis and having a first end and an opposite second end, said shaft extending through said crankcase and said motor, said first end operably coupled with said orbiting scroll, said bearing rotatably supporting said shaft proximate said second end, said shaft axis disposed substantially horizontally during operation of said compressor;

a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft proximate said bearing support member;

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an oil sump disposed within an interior plenum defined by said housing; and
an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support, said flexible members engaged with said bearing support recess, said oil shield having a substantially cylindrical portion extending outwardly from said bearing support and encircling at least a portion of said counterweight.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A compressor assembly comprising:

a housing;
a stationary scroll member fixed within said housing;
an orbiting scroll member disposed within said housing and engaged with said stationary scroll member;
a motor;
a crankcase disposed between said motor and said orbiting scroll;
a bearing support member fixed within said housing and having a bearing mounted thereto;
an elongate shaft rotatable about a shaft axis and having a first end and an opposite second end, said shaft extending through said crankcase and said motor, said first end operably coupled with said orbiting scroll, said bearing rotatably supporting said shaft proximate said second end, said shaft axis disposed substantially horizontally during operation of said compressor;
a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft proximate said bearing support member;
an oil sump disposed within an interior plenum defined by said housing; and
an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support, said oil shield having a substantially cylindrical portion extending outwardly from said bearing support and encircling at least a portion of said counterweight,
wherein each of said plurality of flexible members has a distal end with a radially inwardly projecting portion, and said bearing support member defines a groove proximate said bearing, said inwardly projecting portions being engageable with said groove.

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Claim 8 (previously presented): A compressor assembly comprising:

a housing;

a stationary scroll member fixed within said housing;

an orbiting scroll member disposed within said housing and engaged with said stationary scroll member;

a motor;

a crankcase disposed between said motor and said orbiting scroll;

a bearing support member fixed within said housing and having a bearing mounted thereto;

an elongate shaft rotatable about a shaft axis and having a first end and an opposite second end, said shaft extending through said crankcase and said motor, said first end operably coupled with said orbiting scroll, said bearing rotatably supporting said shaft proximate said second end, said shaft axis disposed substantially horizontally during operation of said compressor;

a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft proximate said bearing support member;

an oil sump disposed within an interior plenum defined by said housing; and

an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support, said oil shield having a substantially cylindrical portion extending outwardly from said bearing support and encircling at least a portion of said counterweight,

wherein said bearing support member includes a substantially cylindrical central portion, said bearing being mounted within said central portion, said oil shield fixedly engaging an outer surface of said central portion.

Claim 9 (original): The compressor assembly of claim 8 wherein said each of said flexible members has a distal end with a radially inwardly projecting portion, and said bearing support member defines a groove on said outer surface of said central portion, said inwardly projecting portions being engageable with said groove.

Claim 10 (original): The compressor assembly of claim 6 wherein said motor includes a rotor rotationally coupled to said shaft and said counterweight is disposed on said rotor.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A compressor assembly comprising:

- a housing;
- a compressor mechanism disposed within said housing;
- a shaft rotatable about a shaft axis, said shaft operably coupled to said compressor mechanism;
- a bearing support member mounted within said housing, said bearing support member rotatably supporting said shaft, said bearing support member defining a groove;
- a counterweight rotationally coupled with said shaft;
- said housing defining an interior plenum wherein lubricating oil is pooled in a bottom portion of said interior plenum, said bearing support member, said counterweight and said shaft all being at least partially disposed within said interior plenum; and
- an oil shield, said oil shield having a plurality of flexible members mounting said oil shield to said bearing support, said counterweight being at least partially disposed within said oil shield, wherein each of said plurality of flexible members is engaged with said groove.

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (previously presented): The compressor assembly of claim 11 wherein said bearing support member includes a substantially cylindrical central portion, and wherein said oil shield is fixedly engaged with an outer surface of said central portion.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein said each of said flexible members of said oil shield has a distal end with a radially inwardly projecting portion, wherein ~~said bearing support member defines a~~ groove is defined on said outer surface of said central portion, and wherein said inwardly projecting portions are engaged with said groove.